Serial No.: 10/659.964

AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS:

1-59. (Canceled)

60. A recording/reproducing apparatus comprising: (Original) a first magnetic head for recording a signal onto a recording medium; and a second magnetic head for reproducing the signal recorded on the recording medium;

wherein:

the first magnetic head comprises:

a first substrate;

a first magnetic head core provided on the first substrate, having a first magnetic gap; and

a coil provided in such a manner that at least a portion of the first magnetic head core is surrounded by the coil,

wherein the first magnetic head core is provided in such a manner that a thickness direction of the first magnetic head core around the first magnetic gap is substantially the same as a track width direction of the recording medium; and

the second magnetic head comprises:

a second substrate;

a second magnetic head core provided on the second substrate, having a second magnetic gap; and

a first magnetoresistance device provided on the second magnetic head core.

wherein the first magnetoresistance device comprises:

an insulating layer provided on the second magnetic head core;

and

a pinned layer provided on a side opposite to the second magnetic head core of the insulating layer, wherein a magnetization direction is not easily rotated in the pinned layer,

Page 2 of 5

Serial No.: 10/659,964

wherein the second magnetic head core comprises a soft magnetic layer provided at a position corresponding to the second insulating layer; and the soft magnetic layer functions as a free layer of the first magnetoresistance device, wherein a magnetization direction is easily rotated in the free layer.

- 61. (Original) A recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 60, wherein the first substrate and the second substrate are the same substrate.
- 62. (Original) A recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 60 further comprising a second magnetoresistance device provided on the second magnetic head core.
- 63. (Original) A recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 62, wherein the first magnetoresistance device and the second magnetoresistance device are provided symmetrically with respect to the second magnetic gap.
- 64. (New) A recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 60, wherein the second magnetic head core is provided in such a manner that a thickness direction of the second magnetic head core around the second magnetic gap is substantially the same as a track width direction of the recording medium.